

DRAFT SUMMARIZED MINUTES CITY OF SCOTTSDALE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AND

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION
JOINT WORK STUDY SESSION
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2006
KIVA CONFERENCE ROOM – CITY HALL
3939 N. DRINKWATER BOULEVARD
SCOTTSDALE, ARIZONA 85251

CALL TO ORDER

The study session of the Scottsdale Transportation Commission and Airport Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Gilliland at 5:27 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEMBERS

Mark Gilliland, Chair Brian Davis, Vice-Chair

Matthew Taunton, Commissioner J. David Hill, Commissioner Kelly McCall, Commissioner Andrea Michaels, Commissioner Josh Weiss, Commissioner William Howard, Commissioner

AIRPORT ADVISORY COMMISSION MEMBERS

Donald Maxwell, Chair

Sean Asmus, Commissioner Tom Guilfoy, Commissioner Mike Osborne, Commissioner

ABSENT: Fred Madanick, Vice-chair

Leonard Tinnan, Commissioner Lois Yates, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT: Rose Arballo, Transportation Commission Coordinator

Dave Meinhart, Transportation Planning & Transit Director

Mary O'Connor, Transportation General Manager Teresa Huish, Principal Transportation Planner John Lusardi, Long Range Planning Director Dave Roderique, Economic Vitality General Manager Jennifer Lewis, Aviation Planner Scott Gray, Aviation Director Harry Higgins, Senior Planner Carrie Wilhelme, Associate Planner

1. REVIEW OF TONIGHT'S REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Transportation Master Plan and Related Studies

Ms. O'Connor pointed out that on the regular session agenda, there is a list of staff who will present different information. She stated the purpose of the joint meeting was to give both Commissions the opportunity to discuss common issues and concerns associated with the Transportation Master Plan. Focus will be primarily on the Airpark Circulation element, but copies of a presentation on the High Capacity Transit System are available for those wanting one.

Mr. Lusardi and Mr. Roderique will speak about the planning and economic studies for the Airpark area. Mr. Gray will speak about the Airport Master Plan. Ms. Huish will give a presentation on the Airpark Circulation Area Study. A consultant will be present to answer questions.

Ms. O'Connor provided an explanation as to how the meeting will be set up and Chair Gilliland will run the meeting.

Commissioner Howard referred to agenda item #1, Transportation Master Plan and Related Studies – Information/Possible Action, and inquired as to what possible action might be taken. Ms. O'Connor replied that the Commission might direct staff to do such things as additional public outreach or arrange for extra meetings. She clarified that this action did not include approval or disapproval and referred more to how the two Commissions will work together.

It was suggested that Ms. Huish give the presentation on the High Capacity Transit System. Chair Gilliland opined that although the presentation was well done and contained background and history, not much information was given on the six alternatives and the logic behind them. He suggested that HDR, the team's, and staff thoughts/reasoning be included to ensure there is clarity in this area. Ms. O'Connor replied that another presentation could be given to include this information.

Commissioner Weiss inquired as to whether it was appropriate at this time to ask more detailed questions since the Airport Advisory Commission (AAC) would have to sit through this discussion. Commissioner Taunton suggested it might be more appropriate to have this topic as information only and address it in detail at another meeting, since a prior discussion on this matter lasted three hours.

Ms. O'Connor stated this presentation could be put at the end of the meeting and then preliminary comments could be solicited from the AAC, time allowing.

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Commissioner Taunton asked for a brief overview of the scope of the Airport Advisory Commission's responsibilities. He stated he did not have a good sense for what the boundaries were in terms of an advisory role. He inquired as to whether the AAC was concerned with the Airpark or just the Airport.

Chair Maxwell responded that most of the Airpark had taxiways into it and there are 60,000 employees and 4,000 businesses. Commissioner Taunton was curious as to what types of issues come before the AAC. Chair Maxwell stated that with the traffic and streets the way they are, it is becoming difficult for employees to circulate once they are there; and if the prediction is correct, by the year 2010, it would be the largest employment area in the state.

In response to an inquiry by Commissioner Howard, Chair Maxwell responded that the boundaries of the Airpark are from Cactus up to Frank Lloyd Wright and Scottsdale Road to the Loop 101.

Chair Gilliland explained that the Transportation Commission's charter was concerned with transportation (all modes, except aviation) policy within the City of Scottsdale. The Commission deals with such issues as neighborhood concerns, the Master Plan, traffic calming, and capital improvements.

Ms. O'Connor further explained that, originally, the Commission was established for oversight of the two-tenths sales tax that passed in the late 1980s for transportation.

Commissioner Taunton inquired as to whether transportation projects were brought before the AAC. Ms. O'Connor explained that the Master Plan had been presented to them. Commissioner Taunton inquired as to whether there was a specific project within the Airpark boundaries. Ms. O'Connor replied there had been very few projects.

Commissioner McCall stated the AAC's charter was still not clear to her.

Commissioner Guilfoy explained that the AAC's charter was pretty specific—to advise the City Council on aviation-related matters as they pertain to the Airport and the Airpark.

Chair Maxwell stated there had been no issues relating to transportation, such as the roads, because the Airpark was just developed. It was developed as an industrial airpark and now has become high tech. The AAC is in a quandary as to what type of transportation can benefit that area—light rail, tunnel under the runway, etc. The AAC has never addressed those problems, because they have not been brought before them.

Commissioner Guilfoy stated that the Airport will have its own Master Plan and studies, but the Transportation Commission has already done it and it is "out of step." He expressed concern that the Transportation Commission has decided upon the Transportation Master Plan without input from the AAC. He opined this was an example of mismatch of local government.

Ms. O'Connor explained that the reason for the joint work study session is to avoid disconnects. The circulation element of the Transportation Master Plan as it relates to the Airpark is about how to use Prop 400 money that has been identified for the tunnel. She opined that the disconnect was not as great as it would seem on the surface and there was a need to examine different scenarios.

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In response to an inquiry by Commissioner Howard, Chair Maxwell responded that the growth limits of the Airport were unknown. He noted that the Airport/Airpark contributes over \$2 billion to the Scottsdale economy and nothing there is subsidized.

In response to an inquiry by Commissioner Michaels, Ms. O'Connor responded that traffic problems at the Airport/Airpark are dealt with on a staff level or with the police department.
ADJOURNMENT
With no further business to discuss, the study session of the Scottsdale Transportation Commission adjourned at 5:59 p.m.
SUBMITTED BY:
A/V Tronics, Inc.
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